

**(2) Relief by Comptroller General**

The Comptroller General may, at the Comptroller General's discretion, relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for any payment otherwise proper if the Comptroller General finds—

(A) that the certification was based on official records and that the certifying officer or employee did not know, and by reasonable diligence and inquiry could not have ascertained, the actual facts; or

(B) that the obligation was incurred in good faith, that the payment was not contrary to any statutory provision specifically prohibiting payments of the character involved, and the United States has received value for such payment.

**(c) Enforcement of liability**

The liability of the certifying officers of the United States Capitol Police shall be enforced in the same manner and to the same extent as currently provided with respect to the enforcement of the liability of disbursing and other accountable officers, and such officers shall have the right to apply for and obtain a decision by the Comptroller General on any question of law involved in a payment on any vouchers presented to them for certification.

(Pub. L. 106–554, §1(a)(2) [title I, §107], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A–103.)

**§ 208. Suspension of Capitol Police members**

The captain of the Capitol police may suspend any member of the force, subject to the approval of the two Sergeants at Arms and of the Architect of the Capitol.

(R.S. §1823; Mar. 3, 1921, ch. 124, §1, 41 Stat. 1291.)

**CODIFICATION**

R.S. §1823 derived from acts Mar. 3, 1873, ch. 226, 17 Stat. 488; June 20, 1874, ch. 328, 18 Stat. 86; Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 129, 18 Stat. 345.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

Change of name of Architect of the Capitol, functions abolished, transferred etc., by prior acts, see Codification and Prior Provisions notes set out under section 161 of this title.

**§ 209. Pay of Capitol Police members under suspension**

On and after March 3, 1875, whenever a member of the Capitol police or watch force is suspended from duty for cause, said policeman or watchman shall receive no compensation for the time of such suspension if he shall not be reinstated.

(Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 129, 18 Stat. 345.)

**CODIFICATION**

Section is based on a proviso in act Mar. 3, 1875, popularly known as the “Legislature, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1876”.

**§ 210. Uniform, belts and arms; Capitol Police**

The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives shall select and regulate the pattern for a uniform for the Capitol police and watchmen,

and furnish each member of the force with the necessary belts and arms, payable out of the contingent fund of the Senate and House of Representatives upon the certificate of the officers above named. Such arms so furnished shall be carried by each officer and member of the Capitol Police, while in the Capitol Buildings (as defined in section 193m(1) of this title), and while within or outside of the boundaries of the United States Capitol Grounds (as defined in section 193a of this title), in such manner and at such times as the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives may, by regulations, prescribe.

(R.S. §1824; Pub. L. 92–607, ch. V, §507, Oct. 31, 1972, 86 Stat. 1508; Pub. L. 95–26, title I, §112, May 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 87.)

**CODIFICATION**

R.S. §1824 derived from act Mar. 30, 1867, ch. 20, §1, 15 Stat. 11.

**AMENDMENTS**

1977—Pub. L. 95–26 struck out “at a cost not to exceed twenty dollars per man,” after “furnish each member of the force with the necessary belts and arms.”.

1972—Pub. L. 92–607 directed that the arms be carried in the Capitol Buildings and within and without the boundaries of the United States Capitol Grounds according to regulations prescribed by the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives.

**§ 210a. Uniforms to display United States flag or colors**

(a) The uniform of officers and members of the United States Park Police force, the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, the Capitol Police, and the Metropolitan Police force of the District of Columbia shall bear a distinctive patch, pin, or other emblem depicting the flag of the United States or the colors thereof.

(b) The Secretary of the Interior in the case of the United States Park Police force, the Secretary of the Treasury in the case of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, the Capitol Police Board in the case of the Capitol Police, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia in the case of the Metropolitan Police force shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Pub. L. 91–297, title II, §201(a), (b), June 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 357; Pub. L. 93–198, title IV, §421, Dec. 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 789; Pub. L. 95–179, Nov. 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 1371.)

**AMENDMENTS**

1977—Pub. L. 95–179 substituted “United States Secret Service Uniformed Division” for “Executive Protective Service” wherever appearing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section 201(c) of Pub. L. 91–297 provided that: “This section [enacting this section] shall take effect one hundred and eighty days after the date of enactment of this title [June 30, 1970].”

**TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

Office of Commissioner of District of Columbia, as established by Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1967, abolished as of noon Jan. 2, 1975, by Pub. L. 93–198, title VII, §711, Dec.